Tea Trading Corporation of India

*474. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government will consider winding up or privatisiing the Tea Trading Corporation of India as it is a loss incurring corporation:

(b) in addition to trading in tea, how many tea gardens are owned by it and what is the acreage:

(c) how many employees are working in the Corporation: and

(d) whether Government will consider merging the Corporation with Tea Board as the functions are parallel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) There is no proposal to wind up or privatise Tea Trading corporation of India Ltd. However, it has been decided to dispose of all the five tea gardens vested in TTCI by inviting competitive bids.

Tea Trading Corporation of India Ltd. owns five tea gardens with a total area of 4850.84 hectares, out of which cultivated area is 1869.75 hectares.

The total number of employees in TTCI is 5035.

There is no proposal to merge TTCI with Tea Board as TTCI is a commercially oriented company whereas Tea Board is an autonomous body set up for promoting overall development of the Tea Industry.

Supply of poor quality of foodgrains through PDS

*475. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that bulk of the foodgrains supplied through P.D.S. are of poor quality containing dirt and dust particles;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor: and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to improve the quality of foodgrains under P.D.S.?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, Question does not arise.

(c) Only good quality foodgrains free from insect infestation and conforming to the PFA standards are issued by the Food Corporation of India for the PDS. The quality of foodgrains is checked by the officers of the concerned State Governments at the time of delivery from the FCI godowns. Sealed samples are also supplied by the FCI which are to be displayed at the fair price shops. The responsibility for maintaining quality after issue from the FCI godowns is that of the State Governments.

गन्ना पिराई मौसम के दौरान लेवी चीनी की उपलब्धता

476. **श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे :**
श्री विमलभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल :

क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वर्ष 1994-95 में गन्ना पिराई मौसम के दौरान लेवी चीनी कम उपलब्ध होने की संभावना है:

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण है ;

(ग) दिसम्बर, 1994 तक देश में राज्य-वार पिछले वर्ष की इसी अवधि की तुलना में लेवी चीनी की कितनी मात्रा उपलब्ध थी :